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Our Cover: Frank Robbins and Craig Russell combine their talents to give us a Bicentennial themed July cover. Ghost Rider © 1976, Marvel Comics Group.

The COMIC READER

July 1976

Volume 1, Number 132

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ERB News

There will soon be a brand new comics group, although what they will publish will be far from brand new. Edgar Rice Burroughs, Inc. and National Periodical Publications have terminated their contract for the licensing of Tarzan, Korak, and the other Burroughs properties. DC's final issues of the Burroughs books will be TARZAN #258 (out in November) and TARZAN FAMILY #67 (out in October). Beginning sometime between December 1 and the beginning of 1977, ERB will begin publication of two new monthly comic books, TARZAN and KORAK. Each will begin with #1.

The publisher will be Robert M. Hodes, administrator of the ERB estate, and the editor will be Mark Evanier. Each comic

will be 48 pages, have painted covers and will cost 50¢. The books will contain no ads (excepting a one page house ad) and will feature three 15 page stories. TARZAN will contain two TARZAN stories and one KORAK adventure; KORAK will feature two KORAK tales and one TARZAN. The book will not carry the Comics Code seal, although nothing will be published that wouldn't pass the code.

As the editorial chores will be done on the west coast, most of the writing and art staff will be situated there, including a number of newcomers. Editor Mark Evanier will write most of the KORAK adventures, and Dan Spiegle will draw most of them. Others on the writing staff include: Bill Rotsler, Dennis Palumbo, Don Glut and Tony Isabella. Art on TARZAN and some of the KORAK material will be handled by the likes of Alex Nino, Danny Bulanadi, Will Meugniot, Mike Royer, Bill Wray, Dave Stevens, Pat Boyette, Bill Ziegler, Rick Hoppe, Rick Hoberg and Dave Cockrum. Russ Manning will probably contribute also.

Some of the material has been completed for foreign distribution for some time and the decision to make use of it in the U.S. was probably prompted by the disappointing sales of the two DC titles. JOHN CARTER OF MARS and PELLUCIDAR stories have been done for the foreign books; if the first two titles sell well enough, a book featuring them will probably be launched. Dave Cockrum has done some JOHN CARTER art while Alex Nino has done a PELLUCIDAR.

Also planned are some giant editions of both titles, possibly containing material Russ Manning has done for foreign markets. ERB Comics will be printed by World Color Press and distributed by PDC. This is the first time since 1929, when TARZAN first appeared in strip form, and 1937, when the first TARZAN comic book appeared, that the Edgar Rice Burroughs people have had direct control over treatment of any of the Burroughs characters, previously having licensed the character to United Feature Syndicate, K.K. and Western Publishing Co.s, and National Periodical Publications. Further news will continue to appear in TCR in the ensuing months. The first ERB books will be printed in August and be held for distribution, putting their production schedule six months ahead, like Gold Key.

TCR Message

First, the good news. In four weeks you'll see our Summer Special TCR, which is shaping up nicely as we go to press. Beginning with a Sergio Aragones cover (we have other covers on tap from Don Newton and Rich Larson; thank you Sergio, Don and Rich!), we'll have an interview with Jim Warren, a history of Gold Key with the first-ever index to what they have published, a special letters section, Marvel and DC news, our yearly title scorecard for all of the companies, a TCR cover you'll never see, Media news and much more! (Possibly TCR's first comic story, too!) So look for it on the stands the first week in July or subscribe now and get it hot off the presses!

Now, for the bad news. Many of you have subscribed for years to our companion publications, The Menomonee Falls GAZETTE and The Menomonee Falls GUARDIAN. We have to announce, after publishing over 220 issues of the GAZETTE and 140 issues of the GUARDIAN, that we'll be very probably suspending publication of each as of the June issues. We have lost publication rights to the King Features we carry and have no money to publish further issues at the current time. We may put out quarterly issues to retain our mailing rights, but these will only feature strips we don't have to pay for, and many of you will not wish to continue receiving these. Now, since we cannot refund money we don't have, we sincerely hope that you subscribers will be able to utilize the remaining parts of your subscriptions for any of the following: Benefit Portfolio ($7.50), EC Reprints #2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 10, 11 ($1.25 each), and 12 ($1.50), Joe Staton's GODS OF MOUNT OLYMPUS #1-3 ($1.00 each), THE SPIRIT #2 (Krupp) ($2.00), STAR REACH #2 ($1.00), WHA..!? by Ditko, GJDRKZLXCPWO by Wolverton, CISCO KID, JUNGLE JIM, KRAZY KAT, RIP KIRBY and FLASH GORDON (Street Comix) (60¢ each), COMIC MEDIA #10 and 11 (75¢ each), ALLEY OOP #1-3 (50¢ each), COMIC READER #92-96, 100-116, 118, 120-128 (50¢ each), GUARDIAN #1, 3-144 (50¢ each), GAZETTE #22, 27, 30, 36 ($1.00 each), 52, 54, 57, 58, 60-62, (75¢ each), 65, 66, 68, 69, 71-73, 77-94, (50¢ each), 96-99, 101-141 (75¢ each), 142-223 (90¢ each). If you cannot use your subscription balance for these things we have ready for mailing, than we implore you to extend your TCR subscription. If we ever begin our two papers again, we'll need working capital, so retaining your subscription to either will not help us. Thank you. Mike and Jerry

National News

As you have already read, the final DC issues of TARZAN and TARZAN FAMILY will be #258 and #67 respectively. Also cancelled are THE JOKER as of #10 (on sale in August) and SWAMP THING with #25 (on sale in July). We have heard of four new titles on the drawing board which we hope to be able to preview in our summer special issue, on sale in four weeks.

The Story Editorship of a couple of titles has been changed (and just when we thought we had it all straight!). Former TCR publisher-editor Paul Levitz has become Story Editor of ADVENTURE COMICS (DC's oldest title), while Tony Isabella has taken over as Story Editor of PLOP! Speaking of ADVENTURE, former Aquaman scripter Steve Skeates has done a fill-in story for the book before David Michelinie takes over as permanent writer.

The BLACK LIGHTNING book originally slated to be released in July, has been delayed until September.

David Kraft is no longer working for National. BLACKHAWK will again be written by Steve Skeates, while Bob Rozakis will do the honors on SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS.

Steve Englehart is working on a three-parter for JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA, a three-part BATMAN and WEIRD WAR TALES #50, as well as some secret new projects.

The first issue of THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD that Denny O'Neil will be responsible for will team Batman with Richard Dragon, Kung Fu Fighter. Bob Haney and Jim Aparo will remain as writer and artist on the book.

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HERCULES UNBOUND #7 contains a story by a new team. David Michelinie will script, Walt Simonson is doing the layouts and Wally Wood the finished art on the book. The cover was pencilled by Rich Buckler.

Bob Haney and Jack Sparling will take over as writer and artist of THE UNKNOWN SOLDIER series in STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES as of issue #204 and #203, respectively.

Paul Levitz will be the new writer on the LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES strip in SUPERBOY.

DC SUPER STARS #9 will feature THE MAN BEHIND THE GUN.

A future issue of either DC SPECIAL or DC SUPER STARS will feature another try-out issue of SUPER-HEROES BATTLE SUPER GORILLAS, sometime this fall.

Rich Buckler will be taking over the art on KOBRA as the book undergoes a massive overhaul.

A new look will be given to KAMANDI also, as Alfredo Alcala's unique inking style is added to stories pencilled by Keith Giffen and Dick Ayers.

Cary Bates is doing a three-parter for ACTION COMICS featuring Terra-Man battling the Man Of Steel.

THE AMAZING WORLD OF DC COMICS #11 mentions that one of Joe Kubert's new projects is called THE SEXTET, apparently a female counterpart to the BLACKHAWKS.

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Marty Pasko is working on two back-up stories for ACTION COMICS: "The Sporting Life Of Steve Lombard" and "Close Up: Morgan Edge." Marty will also be working on SUPERMAN regularly.

The creative team on WELCOME BACK KOTTER will be Elliot Maggin, Jack Sparling and Bob Oksner.

After the first issue, out this month, ISIS will be done by Steve Skeates and Mike Vosburg.

The Saturday morning JLA book, SUPER FRIENDS, will be written by Nelson Bridwell and drawn by Ric Estrada.

Frank Springer is inking two Jose Garcia-Lopez TARZAN stories and is also inking the Rich Buckler JONAH HEX story for WEIRD WESTERN TALES.

KARATE KID #5 and 6 will feature a two-parter introducing a new villain, Commander Blud. The second part will feature guest appearances by Sun Boy, Star Boy, Princess Projectra and Cosmic Boy.

According to VARIETY, Burt Reynolds has accepted the role of SUPERMAN in the upcoming (and upcoming, and upcoming) film.

The Comics Code symbol fell off the cover of STARFIRE #1 before the plates were shot. The comic did pass.

The way we understand it, WONDER WOMAN will be a regular weekly series in January, it's just uncertain which network will carry it. Currently, ABC, who has shown versions of the show at least seven times, has the option from Warner Brothers. However, they want six two hour WW films instead of a regular series. WB doesn't want to do that, naturally preferring a regular spot on the schedule. NBC, on the other hand, having seen the ratings success of the mini-series and the pilots, have assured Warner Bros. that should ABC not pick the show up by November (expiration date of their option), the show will be put into the January schedule for NBC. It seems that ABC doesn't want two super-powered females on their schedule -- but they also don't want to give up to NBC what could turn out to be a hit series. Whichever way it turns out, let us hope that it gets on the air and becomes a sales hypo for all comic books.

David Michelinie is working on another new science fiction title.

Continuity Assoc.

Continuity is working on a series of Superhero Stamps... They're also doing a new project for National along the lines of the STAR TREK BLUEPRINTS, featuring layouts of the Fortress Of Solitude, the Batcave, the JLA Satellite, etc. The plans will first appear in the comic books themselves, but will later be reassembled for bookstore sale... They've designed a Batcave for Mego Toys... Associates Mark Rice and Mike Nasser are doing comics stories, Mark doing a five page RICK JONES strip, Mike doing an ISIS story, a LEGION adventure, a KUNG FU FIGHTER, and the final SON OF SATAN, #8... Bob Wiacek is inking the LEGION and Marvel's CAPTAIN MARVEL... TUCK IT IN is a new girlie strip Russ Heath will draw for a new men's magazine to be written alternately by Larry Hama and Neal Adams... The next Peter Pan album from Continuity will be TARZAN... Neal Adams is inking a Sandy Plunkett-pencilled mystery story for National...

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Marvel News

Say hello to a new book by Roy Thomas and Don Heck featuring THE LIBERTY LEGION. For whatever reason, Roy will not be taking over DAREDEVIL.

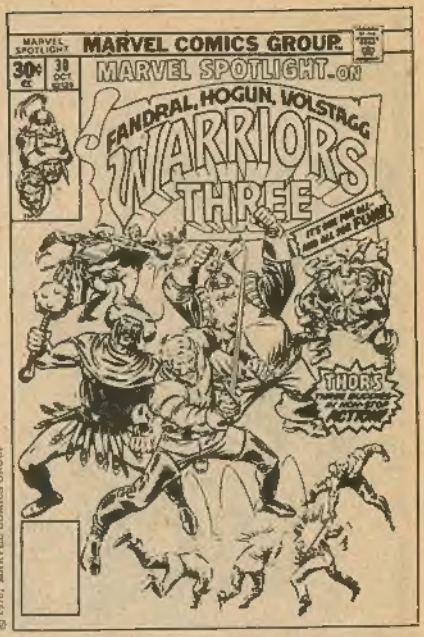
Marv Wolfman will remain on DAREDEVIL and #139 will feature the return of Bob Brown as regular artist.

More cancellations this month: BLACK GOLIATH will end with #5, WARLOCK with the last Jim Starlin issue (we think it's #15), SON OF SATAN with #8, KA-ZAR with an as yet undetermined issue, MARVEL ADVENTURE with #6 and ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES with #10.

Marvel has commissioned a series of five page stories to be used wherever they might fit. In the works thus far are MIDNIGHT (from MASTER OF KUNG FU) by Roger Stern and Jeff Aclin, HAWKEYE AND TWO-GUN KID by Scott Edelman and Klaus Janson, and RICK JONES by Edelman and Mark Rice.

MS. MARVEL finally has an identity. Remember Carol Danvers from the green-suit days of CAPTAIN MARVEL? Well it appears that she has gained some of Mar-Vell's powers from an experience she had with him. In the meantime, she's employed by J. Jonah Jameson editing a women's magazine. The previous is courtesy of Gerry Conway, writer of the book.

Gerry Conway will be taking over THE DEFENDERS as of #42, with Keith Giffen and Klaus Janson on the art. He will remove the Jack Norris and Red Guardian characters from the book and replace them with Hellcat



and the renovated Captain Marvel.

Similarly, Thor and The Black Panther will return to THE AVENGERS in an upcoming three-part crossover with SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP, scripted by Gerry Conway.

Jim Shooter did the lay-outs on SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP #9, with finished art by Sal Trapani. With #10, Bill Mantlo and Bob Hall will become permanent writer and artist.

Current plans call for Gerry Conway to become editor-writer of a new black and white version of THE INCREDIBLE HULK. He says he will attempt to keep the b & w in line with the color title's continuity while exploring more in-depth character studies. Lay-outs are to be by Walt Simonson.

Conway is also slated to do the adaptation of the LOGAN'S RUN film when it appears.

A new color science fiction book is being discussed to be called FORBIDDEN PLANET. Marv Wolfman and Dave Cockrum would be the creators.

The plans for the KISS comic book have been changed from Treasury size to black and white.

WHAT IF...? #2 will be drawn by Herb Trimpe and will feature the premise of "What if The Hulk had not lost his intellect when the gamma rays changed him from Bruce Banner into big green brute."

The Silver Surfer will return in TOMB OF DRACULA #50.

NOVA will feature new super-villains in every issue except #5 which will feature Dr. Doom. It is probable that there will be a Spider-Man-Nova crossover.

Doc Savage will make a rare color book appearance in a future MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE drawn by Ron Wilson and Pablo Marcos.

THE AVENGERS ANNUAL is being delayed until the August schedule. It features a VISION backup story.

Sal Buscema has been made regular penciller on the SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN book.

THOR #252-253 will feature the return of TALES OF ASGARD in a two-part story by David Kraft and Pablo Marcos. A future THOR will feature The Enchantress and The Executioner.

Craig Russell is the new artist on the new DR. STRANGE. He has also plotted and will draw the DR. STRANGE ANNUAL.

Val Mayerik is doing a CONAN story that will center on Conan's youth.

Russ Manning may do a short CONAN story for THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN.

Joe Sinnott may pencil a rare issue of FANTASTIC FOUR.

Dan Adkins has been made regular inker on IRON FIST.

Lee Elias will be doing the regular-size POWER MAN. Ron Wilson has done an issue.

John Byrne has taken over as artist on THE CHAMPIONS and is also pencilling two issues of MARVEL TEAM-UP.

THE MIGHTY MARVEL WESTERN #46 DID come out.

Alfredo Alcala is inking KULL THE DESTROYER.

The Hulk will battle Colossus of THE X-MEN in THE INCREDIBLE HULK.

Sal Buscema and Tom Palmer are the art team currently doing NOVA (and only Marvel knows which issue they're up to now).

Jim Mooney is doing a fill-in issue of THE INVADERS.

Charlton News

Charlton has decided that their time can be used to better advantage by not using it for fan publicity, so we probably won't be using many contents listings any longer, although we'll continue to list the schedules. Last month's schedule was essentially correct, although WHEELIE AND THE CHOPPER BUNCH was discontinued with #7. Its place on the schedule has been taken by another Hanna-Barbera TV cartoon, THE GREAT GRAPE APE.

THE PHANTOM will be discontinued with #74, a Bicentennial story with story by Bill Pearson and art and cover by Don Newton. It will be replaced on the schedule by another King Features character book, HAGAR THE HORRIBLE.

MONSTER HUNTERS will cease with this month's issue, #8. It will be replaced by an as yet unnamed title devoted to CB radio fans.

Rumor has it that the black and white titles are shaky due to poor sales, SPACE: 1999's weak ratings despite all of the publicity and Universal's continual interference and demands on the EMERGENCY and SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN books.

All of the above is probably true, but has not been acknowledged by Charlton.

Coming Comics

GHOST MANOR (31, October). (7/1)

GHOSTLY TALES (123, October). (7/1)

JUST MARRIED (113, October). (7/1)

SARGE SNORKEL (16, October). (7/1)

LOVE DIARY (101, October). (7/8)

I LOVE YOU (120, October). (7/8)

THE SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN (3, October). (7/8)

EMERGENCY (3, October). (7/8)

FIGHTIN' ARMY (126, October). (7/8)

BILLY THE KID (120, October). (7/8)

THE MANY GHOSTS OF DR. GRAVES (59, October). (7/15)

GHOSTLY HAUNTS (52, October). (7/15)

SCOOBY DOO (10, October). (7/15)

VALLEY OF THE DINOSAURS (10, October). (7/15)

BARNEY AND BETTY RUBBLE (22, October). (7/22)

PEBBLES AND BAMM-BAMM (35, October). (7/22)

THE PHANTOM (73, October). This issue introduces two new villains created by artist Don Newton, The Torch and The Master Raven, in a story written by Bill Pearson. Newton did the cover. (7/22)

POPEYE (137, October). (7/22)

MONSTERS HUNTERS (8, November). The last issue. (7/29)

SCARY TALES (8, November). (7/29)

THE SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN Magazine (3, October). (7/29)

EMERGENCY Magazine (3, October). (7/29)

Warren

Dick Giordano, Walt Simonson, John Severin and Al Milgrom are doing the inking on stories pencilled by Carmine Infantino.

The prices on all the Warrens will go to $1.50 if they contain a color section. Apparently those without will cost $1.25.

CREEPY (82, September). This is an annual featuring stories drawn by Esteban Maroto. Included are "Forgive Us Our Debts" by Jim Stenstrum; "The Most Private Terror" by Budd Lewis; "Deja Vu" by Doug Moench with color by Bill DuBay; "Relatives" by Bruce Bezaire; and "The Scream In The Forest" by Greg Potter. The cover is by Esteban Maroto with color by Bill DuBay. (7/1)

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND (128, September). (7/8)

EERIE (77, September). "Within You, Without You" is a time travel story by Bruce Jones and Richard Corben; "Moonweaver's Gift" is by Budd Lewis and Leo Sanchez; "The Demons Of Jedediah Pan" and "The Demons Of Father Pain" are both by Bill DuBay and Jose Ortiz,

VAMPIRELLA
VAMPI #53
SEIZED BY DESPERADO ASSASSINS, VAMPIRELLA MUST AID THEM... OR BECOME AN ALIEN TIME BOMB! "THE HUMAN MARKETPLACE!"
© 1974, WARREN PUBLISHING COMPANY

the latter in color by DuBay: "Oogie And The Lie" is by DuBay and Esteban Maroto and we find out that Thelma Starbust is pregnant and there's some doubt that LeRoy is the father; "Cronk" is an alien that was raised in Brooklyn in a story by Nick Cuti, Carmine Infantino and Wayne Howard. Plus, Joe Brancatelli explains how comic book writers hate their audience in "Comic Book." The cover is by Corben. (7/8)

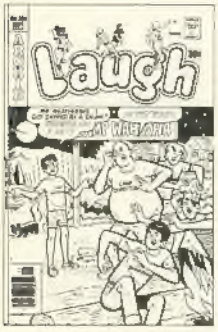
VAMPIRELLA (54, September). A three part Vampi novel is featured. Part One is "The Day The Music Died," part two is "Twilight Of Blood" and part three is "Chaos In A Sleepy Suburb" and they're all by Gerry Boudreau and Gonzalo Mayo. The long-awaited premiere of "Bowser" is in color and by Richard Corben, with story by Jan Strnad. The cover is by Enrich. (7/15)

Archie

In our continuing effort to bring you the names of the many unsung heroes of the comic industry, we introduce you to Barry Grossman. Barry is Archie Comics' Chief colorist, coloring 95% of the interiors and nearly all of the covers. He's never been mentioned in a fan publication before and we think he deserves recognition.

For those who have asked, we don't list the Archie (or Harvey for that matter) titles on the checklist because we don't have the room. We'd guess that a smaller percentage of our readership collects these than those companies we do list.

COMING COMICS (dated September): BETTY AND VERONICA SUMMER FUN #248, JUGHEAD'S JOKES #50, ARCHIE AND ME #86, ARCHIE'S JOKEBOOK #224, BETTY AND



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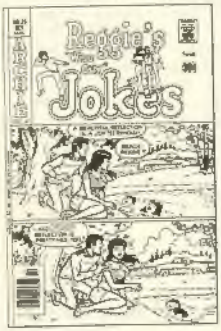

VERONICA #249, PEP #317, on sale June 22.

THE WORLD OF ARCHIE #249, ARCHIE'S PALS 'N' GALS #108, LAUGH #306, LIFE WITH ARCHIE #173, JUGHEAD #256, on sale June 29.

BETTY AND VERONICA SPECTACULAR #250, ARCHIE'S TV LAUGHOUT #43, LITTLE ARCHIE #110, REGGIE AND ME #90, ARCHIE #256, on sale July 5.

SABRINA, THE TEEN-AGE WITCH #34, THAT WILKIN BOY #38, BETTY AND ME #78, ARCHIE AT RIVERDALE HIGH #39, on sale July 12.

EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE #51, REGGIE'S JOKES #39, MAD HOUSE #104, JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS #91, on sale July 19.

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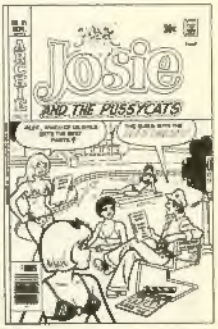
Harvey

A brand new RICHIE RICH title has been added to the schedule, RICHIE RICH ZILLIONS. It's 64 pages and Harvey's first 50¢ comic. There are currently 20 different RICHIE RICH titles being published, which is certainly some kind of record for one character.

All 32 page Harveys are now 30¢; all 48 pagers are 40¢. Harvey becomes the first group to have a 40¢ comic book, counting color books only, of course.



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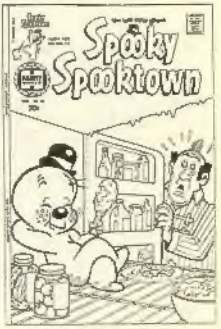
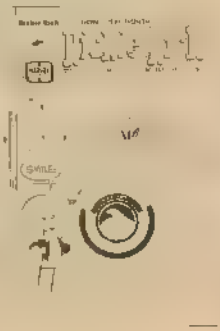


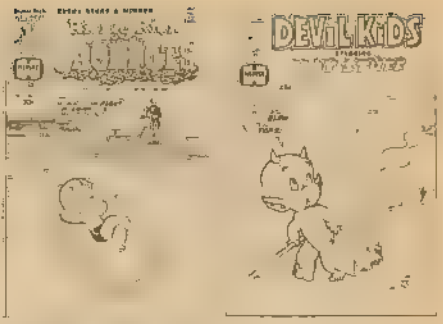
COMING COMICS (dated October): CASPER'S GHOSTLAND #92, RICHIE RICH BANK BOOKS #25, SAD SACK LAUGH SPECIAL #91, and SUPERICHIE (40¢), and RICHIE RICH ZILLIONS #1 (50¢), on sale 6/24.

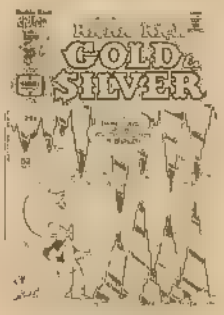
SPOOKY SPOOKTOWN #65, RICHIE RICH AND CASPER #14, RICHIE RICH JACKPOTS #25 and RICHIE RICH SUCCESS #70 (40¢), on sale 7/1.

RICHIE RICH PROFITS #13, DEVIL KIDS #8, RICHIE RICH CASH #14 and RICHIE RICH DIAMONDS (40¢), on sale 7/8.

SAD SACK AND SARGE #121, CASPER #188, RICHIE RICH #147 and RICHIE RICH GOLD AND SILVER #8 (40¢), on sale 7/15.







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The Writer's Side

Q: Do you think that a coherent and well-plotted story can be done today in eight pages or less without making it part of a multi-parter?

JOHN DAVID WARNER: I think it's quite possible to do a well-plotted story in eight pages ... You sometimes feel a little confined, but in general you can do any single one-shot subject in eight pages and you should be able to get a well-plotted story out of it.

MARTIN PASKO: Ever hear of somebody named Will Eisner? Every one of those SPIRIT stories was done in seven pages and they were self-contained. I could do self-contained eight page stories very easily, given my head. By that I mean an editor-writer situation. But when you have a set of editorial priorities, an editorial checklist to satisfy (i.e., "We gotta see the secret identity in at least two pages," "Every supporting character must appear in every issue," etc.) then obviously you need eleven-twelve pages minimum for a lead feature. Obviously, some features are designed specifically for shorter length, such as 'The Private Life Of Clark Kent." Whether that kind of anecdotal story is the kind of story you re referring to in your question is a matter of taste.

ROY THOMAS: I think it could be done. Today's writers tend to want to put in either a lot of characterizations or the artists want to put in a lot of "in-between"-type panels. It has to do with the amount of detail the writer and artist put in. It s still possible, but no one would want to read it as it would be little more than bone, just plot.

GERRY CONWAY: I think it can actually be done, myself. I think it has been done. Really, it s not so much a matter of whether a story like that can be done, but rather if the writers want to do that kind of story -- because they're rather shallow little stories.

DOUG MOENCH: The mechanics of storytelling have changed. In the ECs there was a reliance on heavy captions and considerable time elapsement between panels. They presented isolated scenes. Now today a comics have been heavily influenced by a panel-to-panel progression or flow, as in Eisner and Steranko, and that flow, that naturalness, that picture-to-picture continuity eats up a lot of space. Whereas, one panel in an EC would get across a major scene, the panel-to-panel practice eats up maybe a page. And there's also more emphasis on characterization today and that also eats up space. You could still do an eight page full story, but it would be nothing more than just the plot -- there'd be little action and little characterization.

DAVID MICHELINIE: I think a coherent and well-plotted story can be done in eight pages or less. However, when you start adding other requirements, such as characterization and continuity, the job becomes increasingly difficult, and, in some cases, impossible. Characterization usually comes in the form of introspective through balloons, or in dialogue exchanges or actions which often have little to do with the main plot-line -- and all of this takes room. The same goes for continuity bits, especially the development of sub-plots, which are an essential part of the growth and (dare I say it?) sales potential

of any regular series. With seventeen pages you have the space to push the movement and violence expected in an action-oriented medium, while still having enough room to explore the people involved. But with eight pages or less, something has to go -- and usually that's the less visually-oriented aspects such as characterization. By utilizing the multi-part format, you can include the necessary action and still be able to throw in the more subtle points of character and continuity by interjecting them in smaller doses over several issues.

MARV WOLFMAN: I feel that a good story can be done in eight pages or less, however, most writers are too lazy to take the time to plot that concisely. It takes a lot more discipline to plot a short story than it does a long story.

LEN WEIN: A few years ago I was doing THE HUMAN TARGET strip in ACTION COMICS, most of which (if memory serves) were coherent and well-plotted eight-page stories (I hope). I think generally we've all gotten into the rut of convincing ourselves that that sort of story can't be done anymore. Once you set limitations like those you mentioned and are satisfied that that is all you are going to produce, you can do a damned good eight page story.

(This column was conducted by David Finger.)

Media News

Woody Allen's new film, which will star himself as well as Diane Keaton, will be titled A WOODY ALLEN FILM. Must have stayed up nights to get that one... Production begins late this summer on THE SPY WHO LOVED ME, the new JAMES BOND movie with Roger Moore, to be followed by JAMES BOND OF THE SECRET SERVICE -- which is being written by Len Deighton, Kevin McClory and -- Sean Connery... Dino DeLaurentis has constructed a 50 foot mechanical ape to star in KING KONG, at a cost of $2,000,000. Production costs on this probable turkey are estimated to be at least $20,000,000. DeLaurentis will probably shoot a sequel right after they finish the first to try to recoup some of the investment... While Ralph Bakshi does the LORD OF THE RINGS feature animated film, Arthur Rankin and Jules Bass are preparing a TV version of Tolkien's THE HOBBIT to be followed by THE RETURN OF THE KING from LORD OF THE RINGS... Harry Saltzman is already preparing to do a sequel to the unreleased THE MICRONAUTS, to be called THE COLONY... Warner Bros. is doing a film version of John (ZARDOZ) Boorman's MERLIN... Milton Subotsky is a busy man these days, doing a remake of the '30s film, THE CAT PEOPLE, then a multi-story film about supernatural cats called BRRR. Subotsky still has the THONGOR and HULK films, as well as a deal with Jim Warren to adapt some stories from CREEPY and EERIE to film. These films will most likely employ overlay animation with the live action. He's got another science fiction flick in the works too...

The endless pre-premiere publicity continues on THE AVENGERS. Yes, John Steed has been promoted to head of his department and will oversee the operations of Purdey and Mike Gambit (Joanna Lumley and Gareth Hunt). Yes, the show's budget is quite large (about $250,000 per episode). Yes, Laurie Johnson will return to do the music on the show and the theme will be the same. Yes, production has started, and yes, such people as Christopher Lee and Peter Cushing are being considered for guest shots. But no, neither ABC or NBC, both of whom have made overtures, has committed themselves to purchase of the show for January.

Steve Swires informs me that, in an interview to appear soon in THE MONSTER TIMES, Peter Cushing claims to be signed to play the role of Pendragon in the VAMPIRELLA film. He should know... And Kim Johnson updates the developments of the various MONTY PYTHON projects. Graham Chapman's special may turn into a BBC series; Terry Jones and Mike Palin are working on another BBC series, still in the planning stages; John Cleese's FAWLTY TOWERS won't be seen here, unless something changes in PBS' thinking; and the tour was successful, but the group was bored doing the same stuff every night. Apparently, there were two different shows, as I've heard recordings of sketches not in the show reviewed by David Finger last month. An L.A. stand is being talked about, but no other national touring is being done...The Arista record mentioned last time is called MONTY PYTHON AT THE CITY CENTER... The film that they're working on is titled JESUS CHRIST: LUST FOR LIFE...

NBC SATURDAY NIGHT'S regulars are appearing in some current films. Dan Ackroyd is playing a blind man in LOVE AT FIRST SIGHT, and both Chevy Chase and Larraine Newman appear in TUNNEL VISION with TV's Rick Hurst and Roger Bowen... The new TV season will debut September 20th and will feature many changes in existant series. Mc MILLAIN & WIFE will become McMILLAIN, as Susan St. James joins expatriates Nancy Walker and John Schuck. RHODA and Joe will separate, she'll lose both parents, and Anne Meara joins the cast. PHYLLIS will lose Richard Schall and Liz Torres and she'll get a new job. DOC is being revamped and will probably dump most of the cast too. SWITCH will get a new producer and most likely a new look. BARNABY JONES is getting a young partner, one of those rummies from SWAT. And ALL'S FAIR, a new show, will be called something else when it does appear. Seems somebody already copyrighted the title... The BUGS BUNNY-ROAD RUNNER show was appreciated, but the hack job they did to fit four cartoons in a half hour was inexcusable. Most of the fun with LOONEY TUNES was watching the credits. Each half hour included two cartoons edited by almost two minutes each. Let's hope if they do it again, they'll do a better job... Can anyone send me the fall Saturday morning schedules for the three networks?... A whole bunch of shows are being mentioned as "certain" replacements for the January second season, but I never take much stock in those lists. Corporate turnover has an effect on long range programming, you know...

- Rona Blabbit

Visual Publications

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QUEST OF THE GYPSY has been renewed for another two novels, so there will be at least three GYPSY novels, all illustrated by Alex Nino.

Along with the regular softbound, newsprint edition of CHANDLER in FICTION ILLUSTRATED #3 by Jim Steranko (writer, artist, letterer and colorist) which will be on sale the last week of July, a hardback will also be offered for sale in bookstores, on heavy paper with heavy covers. This is an attempt to do quality comics for a wide audience. The cover is a Steranko painting. Those of you who wish to reserve your copy for $4.95 in this limited edition, write Pyramid Books, 9 Garden Street, Moonachie, NJ 07074.

Et Al

Bill Pearson and Bob Layton have gotten together and are going to do a 10th Anniversary edition of WITZEND, which will contain an assortment of graphic stories, portfolios and assorted illustrations by the original contributors to WITZEND and anybody else they can find. The deadline for their contributors is Labor Day, so we'll be looking for the 1976 WITZEND ANNUAL in the fall.

DAISY SHOOTING ANNUAL for 1976 has an article about Red Ryder and Daisy air rifles written and illustrated by Fred Harmon.

Craig Delich has taken up the gauntlet and is finishing up plans for the ALL-STAR COMICS REVUE, originally planned by Jerry Bails. Plans include full color covers, updated indexing of ASC #1-57 with writers, artists and editors, bios of the JSA, summaries of all the stories, cross-indexes of other appearances of the JSA plus the current ALL STAR, rogues gallery, the Jr. JSA and possibly some unpublished JSA art. Contributions of information or suggestions will be welcomed at 2940 North 71st Kansas City, KS 66109.

Last month we assured you, as we were assured, that the Hotel Commodore would be open for the annual July 4th New York Comic Con. It was as much a surprise to us as you when we read in the national press that the Commodore was forced to close its doors forever last month, so we found out from Phil Seuling what was going on. Well, for awhile there it looked like it wasn't going on -- but Phil has managed to secure the Hotel McAlpin at 34th Street and Broadway for the con, so everything will go as scheduled. If you've already reserved rooms at the Commodore, those reservations will be automatically switched to the McAlpin. There will be no banquet luncheon this year, but Archie Goodwin, Managing Editor of Marvel, is the keynote speaker. So, if you planned to go but were uncertain, the green light is on.

Chicago's Comicon, to be held this August 6 - 8 at the Playboy Towers Hotel, will spotlight Jenette Kahn, publisher of National Periodicals, Harvey Kurtzman, and the aforementioned Stan Lee, as well as Tim Conrad, Alan J. Hanley and Bob Weinberg. In case it matters, we'll be there too. For dealer, hotel or membership information, write: The Chicago Comicon, 3816 W. Lawrence Avenue, Chicago, Illinois 60625. Tell em Jimmy Carter sent ya.

Comment

Over the Memorial Day weekend, Jerry and Fanzine Reviewer Larry Charet plus yours truly attended the Detroit Triple Fan Fair. This is not a review of the con per se, so TFF folks don't get tense. Rather, it is an observation of what has happened in the relatively new business of selling comics and comic-related items for fun and profit.

From what I could see, for the most part, dealers there did not do well. Of the almost one hundred dealers tables, a very small percentage actually had recent comics, and an even smaller percentage of those displayed the books without the everpresent plastic bags. Consequently, by the last day of the convention most of those boxes had just as many comic books in them as when they had arrived. Nobody marked down their stuff for last minute sales, few would go for special deals. Why? Because most of them are professionals. They own comic shops where they can sell their overpriced wares to kids or collectors who can't afford to come to conventions and get competitive prices. And, although some of them didn't even make expenses, they wouldn't back down from the Holy Prices marked on their books. Never mind that they're in business to SELL comics -- if you don't pay THE price, tough luck.

What are THE prices? They didn't used to exist. In 1970, you could go to a convention, a swap meet, a used book store -- and maybe get a bargain, a reasonably priced four color treasure. You could go

out there and buy a BIG TOWN, an Atlas western, an IW/Super reprint, and be reasonably sure that you were getting a fair price because these books were the dealers' slow movers, the kind of stuff that they stuck in their 25¢-50¢ box for quick sale. You could look through ads and find golden age comics for a couple of bucks, even an ALL STAR on occasion for $5.00. That's the way I did my buying, shopping for the best price, setting a maximum price FOR MYSELF and never exceeding it. It worked. I got what I wanted, the dealer got his sale, and no one was ever the wiser.

That is, until Bob Overstreet began his massive project, The Comic Book Price Guide. In the past five years, the book has gotten to the point where it is an invaluable reference book, listing beginning and ending dates for titles, number of issues, artists, etc. with just a few major errors still included. On the other hand, the book contains PRICES. Prices which, it seems to me, increase every year the book is published, for no actual reason.

There is no logical reason why a comic book should increase in value EVERY year. There is no inflationary forces working on them as they sit on the shelf. Seemingly, since the business in golden age books seems to be at a low ebb, prices should go down to increase demand. But they don't. Overstreet's Guide marks up a $125 book to $137.50 and that's what the dealers charge. Never mind that nobody wanted it at $125. Now they're not going to want it at $137.50.

Oh sure, you do see turnover of golden age stuff. But who does the buying? Other dealers, trading their overpriced books for that dealers overpriced books. Others, buying in bulk at what should probably be the real retail price, speculating that the books will increase in the Guide. It's retail incest. No one except the dealers can afford to buy the expensive comics. Today, to get a collection going, you either have to mortgage your house or be independently wealthy. And it's because of that damned Guide.

Value on comic books seems to me to ephemeral thing anyhow. Today CLASSICS ILLUSTRATED are the thing, tomorrow HOWARD THE DUCK. Who wants these copies of RULAH? Nobody? What is the value then? $4.00 each. Reason: because. They are old. That's what I paid for it. Is it a good story? Nope. Good art? Nope. Price: $4.00. And that's this year. Next year this turkey will cost you $5.00, so you better get it now.

What's happened to this hobby?

– Mike Tiefenbacher

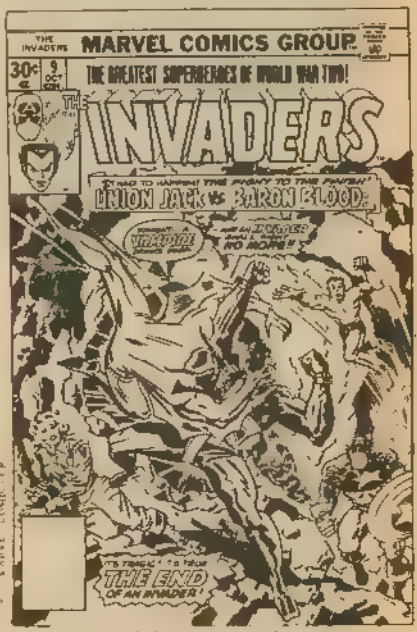
Marvel Coming Comics

THE INVADERS (9, October). Union Jack's career as an Invader is brought to an abrupt end in his final showdown with Baron Blood in "An Invader No More" by Roy Thomas, Frank Robbins and Frank Springer. The cover is by Jack Kirby. (7/6)

DAREDEVIL (138, October). DD, out west in search of Karen Page, confronts The Ghost Rider in "Where Is Karen Page? by Marv Wolfman, John Byrne and Jim Mooney. The cover is by somebody and Tom Palmer. (7/6)

TOMB OF DRACULA (49, October). Dracula fights Robin Hood, Zorro, the original Frankenstein, D'Artagnan, Tom Sawyer and Injun Joe in a library run by a lovely young woman who has the power of creating physical forms for her favorite fictional characters -- her favorite being Dracula. 'And With The Word There Shall Come Death' is by Marv Wolfman, Gene Colan and Tom Palmer. The cover is by Colan and Palmer. (7/6)

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE (20, October). The Liberty Legion continues their guest appearance from the ANNUAL issue in "Showdown At Sea' by Roy Thomas, Sal Buscema and Sam Grainger. The cover is by Jack Kirby. (7/6)



KID COLT OUTLAW (211, October). (7/6)

IRON FIST (8, October). Iron Fist returns to the Big Apple and gets involved with a street gang that is planning to take over the city. Plus -- John Byrne makes a guest appearance! "Like Tigers In The Night" by Chris Claremont, John Byrne and Dan Adkins. The cover is by Byrne and Adkins. (7/6)

MARVEL PREMIERE (32, October). Introducing a western bountyhunter in the far future in outer space -- "Monark Starstalker" -- written and drawn by Howie Chaykin. The cover is by Chaykin. (7/6)

SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP (8, October). The Ringmaster returns with the Circus Of Crime and a new addition, The Rajah, all in Escape' by Steve Englehart, Keith Giffen and Owen McCarron. (7/6)

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS (66, October).

ST Pocket Checklist

July 1976

Marvel

- ☐ ADVENTURES ON PLANET OF APES #9
- ☐ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #161
- ☐ THE AVENGERS #152
- ☐ BLACK GOLIATH #5
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #202
- ☐ THE CHAMPIONS #8
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #67
- ☐ CRAZY #20
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #138
- ☐ DAREDEVIL ANNUAL #4
- ☐ THE DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU #27
- ☐ THE DEFENDERS #40
- ☐ DOCTOR STRANGE #19
- ☐ THE ETERNALS #4
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #175
- ☐ THE GHOST RIDER #20
- ☐ THE INCREDIBLE HULK #204
- ☐ THE INCREDIBLE HULK ANNUAL #5
- ☐ THE INHUMANS #7
- ☐ THE INVADERS #9
- ☐ IRON FIST #8
- ☐ IRON MAN #91
- ☐ KA-ZAR #18
- ☐ KID COLT OUTLAW #211
- ☐ KULL THE DESTROYER #17
- ☐ MARVEL ADVENTURE #6
- ☐ MARVEL CHILLERS #7
- ☐ MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS #9
- ☐ MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS #10
- ☐ MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS #11
- ☐ MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS #12
- ☐ MARVEL DOUBLE FEATURE #18
- ☐ MARVEL PRESENTS #7
- ☐ MARVEL PREMIERE #32 (Starstalker)
- ☐ MARVEL PREVIEW #7 (Satana)
- ☐ MARVEL SPOTLIGHT #30 (Warriors 3)
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #60
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #72
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #50
- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #20
- ☐ MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #66
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #45
- ☐ NOVA #2
- ☐ PLANET OF THE APES #24
- ☐ POWERMAN #36
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #14
- ☐ SGT. FURY #136
- ☐ SON OF SATAN #6
- ☐ SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #19
- ☐ SUPER-VILLAIN TEAM-UP #8
- ☐ THOR #252
- ☐ TOMB OF DRACULA #49
- ☐ TWO-GUN KID #133
- ☐ 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY #1 (Treasury)
- ☐ WARLOCK #15
- ☐ WEIRD WONDER TALES #18
- ☐ THE X-MEN #101

Charlton

- ☐ BARNEY AND BETTY RUBBLE #22
- ☐ BILLY THE KID #120
- ☐ EMERGENCY #3
- ☐ EMERGENCY Magazine #3
- ☐ FIGHTIN' ARMY #126
- ☐ GHOST MANOR #31
- ☐ GHOSTLY HAUNTS #52
- ☐ GHOSTLY TALES #123
- ☐ I LOVE YOU #120
- ☐ JUST MARRIED #113
- ☐ LOVE DIARY #101
- ☐ THE MANY GHOSTS OF DR. GRAVES #59
- ☐ MONSTER HUNTERS #8
- ☐ PEBBLES AND BAMM BAMM #35
- ☐ THE PHANTOM #73
- ☐ POPEYE #137
- ☐ SARGE SNORKEL #16
- ☐ SCARY TALES #8
- ☐ SCOOBY DOO #10
- ☐ SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN #3
- ☐ SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN Magazine #3
- ☐ VALLEY OF THE DINOSAURS #10

National

- ☐ ACTION COMICS #464
- ☐ BATMAN #260
- ☐ BINKY #82
- ☐ THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #130
- ☐ DC SPECIAL #24
- ☐ DC SUPER STARS #8 (Space)
- ☐ DETECTIVE COMICS #464
- ☐ THE FLASH #243
- ☐ G.I. COMBAT #195
- ☐ GREEN LANTERN #91
- ☐ HERCULES UNBOUND #7
- ☐ HOUSE OF MYSTERY #246
- ☐ HOUSE OF SECRETS #142
- ☐ ISIS #1
- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #135
- ☐ KAMANDI #46
- ☐ KOBRA #5
- ☐ LIMITED COLLECTORS' EDITION C-48 (Race)
- ☐ LIMITED COLLECTORS' EDITION C-49 (Legion)
- ☐ METAL MEN #48
- ☐ OUR ARMY AT WAR #297
- ☐ PLASTIC MAN #15
- ☐ RAGMAN #2
- ☐ RICHARD DRAGON, KUNG FU FIGHTER #12
- ☐ STARFIRE #2
- ☐ STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES #202
- ☐ SUPERBOY #220
- ☐ SUPER DC GIANT S-27 (Flying Saucers)
- ☐ SUPERMAN #304
- ☐ THE SUPERMAN FAMILY #179
- ☐ SUPER-TEAM FAMILY #7
- ☐ SWAMP THING #25
- ☐ TARZAN #254
- ☐ WARLORD #3
- ☐ THE WITCHING HOUR #66
- ☐ WONDER WOMAN #226
- ☐ WORLD'S FINEST COMICS #241
- ☐ YOUNG LOVE #121

Warren

- ☐ CREEPY #82
- ☐ EERIE #77
- ☐ FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND #128
- ☐ VAMPIRELLA #54

National Lampoon

- ☐ NATIONAL LAMPOON #77

Gold Key

- ☐ ANDY PANDA #15
- ☐ BEAGLE BOYS #31
- ☐ BEEP BEEP THE ROAD RUNNER #59
- ☐ BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY #70
- ☐ BUGS BUNNY #176
- ☐ CHIP 'N' DALE #42
- ☐ DAGAR THE INVINCIBLE #17
- ☐ DAISY AND DONALD #19
- ☐ DONALD DUCK #175
- ☐ GOLD KEY SPOTLIGHT #3 (W Witch)
- ☐ GRIMM'S GHOST STORIES #33
- ☐ HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE #40
- ☐ THE INSPECTOR #11
- ☐ LITTLE LULU #235
- ☐ MAGNUS ROBOT FIGHTER #45
- ☐ MICKEY MOUSE #166
- ☐ MOBY DUCK #24
- ☐ NEW TERRYTOONS #40
- ☐ THE PINK PANTHER #37
- ☐ PORKY PIG #70
- ☐ SCAMP #31
- ☐ SPACE FAMILY ROBINSON LOST etc. #49
- ☐ STAR TREK #40
- ☐ TUROK, SON OF STONE #105
- ☐ TWEETY AND SYLVESTER #61
- ☐ THE TWILIGHT ZONE #73
- ☐ UNCLE SCROOGE #132
- ☐ WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES #432
- ☐ WOODY WOODPECKER #153
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Reprinted from FANTASTIC FOUR #84 is "The Name Is Doom" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. (7/6)

KA-ZAR (18, October). The Queen forces Ka-Zar into a gladiatorial match in ' The Gnome, The Queen And The Savage" by Doug Moench and Val Mayerik. (7/6)

MARVEL DOUBLE FEATURE (18, October). Two Captain America stories are reprinted from TALES OF SUSPENSE #94 and 95: "If This Be Modok and "A Time To Die -- A Time To Live by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Joe Sinnott. The cover's by Kirby. (7/6)

SON OF SATAN (6, October). The SOS tracks down Mindstar only to become a victim of "The House Of Elements." Also, Saripha Thames Makes A Startling Revelation. The story is by John D. Warner, the art by Ed Hannigan and Sonny Trinidad. (7/6)

WEIRD WONDER TALES (18, October). A Venus story is included. (7/6)

TWO-GUN KID (133, October). (7/6)

KULL THE DESTROYER (17, October). Kull fights the gigantic Kraken monster in "The Thing From The Emerald Sea ' by Doug Moench, Ed Hannigan (first half), and Alfredo Alcala (inks and second half of the book). (7/6)

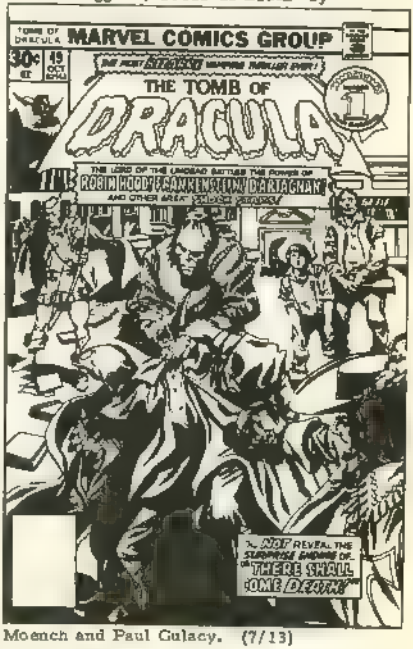
THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN (161, October). Spider-Man and Nightcrawler each believe

that the other is responsible for a murder and are off to capture each other, plus, The Punisher guest stars in And The Nightcrawler Came Prowling, Prowling" by Len Wein, Wein, Ross Andru, Andru and Mike Esposito, Esposito. The cover is by Gil Kane and John Romita. (7/13)

CAPTAIN AMERICA (202, October). Cap discovers that The Falcon has been kidnapped by The Night People and pursues them to their dimension, while being pursued by Texas Jack. "Danger In A Dark Dimension" is by Jack Kirby and Frank Giacoia. The cover is by Kirby. (7/13)

THOR (252, October). The Thor adventure concerns Thor's battle with Ulik for The Ruby Eye Of The Dragon, a gemstone that will help Thor find his father, and is called "A Dragon At The Gates" by Len Wein, John Buscema and Tony DeZuniga. The backup is a Tales Of Asgard story in which a young Thor receives the hammer but learns that it is the man, not the weapon, that counts in ' The Weapon And The Warrior' by David Kraft and Pablo Marcos. (7/13)

MASTER OF KUNG FU (45, October). Shang Chi s sister unveils her evil plot and Fu Manchu s plan is revealed in "Part 1 (Shang Chi): Duel Of The Daggers, Seeds Of Death" by



Doug Moench and Paul Gulacy. (7/13)

THE ETERNALS (4, October). The Deviants stir up bad feelings toward The Eternals by beating people up and claiming to be Eternals, plus Circe s power is revealed in Night Of The Demons ' by Jack Kirby and John Verpoorten. The cover is by Kirby. (7/13)

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES (60, October). From HULK #106 is reprinted : "Above The Earth -- A Titan Rages" by Archie Goodwin, Roy Thomas, Marie Severin, Herb Trimpe and George Tuska. (7/13)

DOCTOR STRANGE (19, October). The Sorcerer Supreme undergoes a transformation to Master Of The Mystic Arts, with subsequent loss of power, and it is revealed that the destruction of the world that Strange witnessed was not real in Lo, The Powers Changeth" by Marv Wolfman, and new artist Alfredo Alcala. (7/13)

MARVEL SPOTLIGHT (30, October). Hogun, Fandrall and Volstagg -- THE WARRIORS THREE -- search for a girl's fiance who has fallen in with bad company and encounter New York night life for a change in 'A Night On The Town' by Len Wein, John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. The cover is by Rich Buckler and Sinnott. (7/13)

THE GHOST RIDER (20, October). Death's Head is revealed to be someone other than Karen's father in a continuation of the story in DAREDEVIL by Marv Wolfman, John Byrne and Don Perlin. (7/13)

THE INHUMANS (7, October). The Inhumans, in search of a new sanctuary, crash on a seemingly barren planet only to be attacked by giant beetles -- each of which contains an entire city! 'A Trip To The Doom' is by Doug Moench, Gil Kane and Don Perlin. (7/13)

MARVEL CHILLERS (7, October). The final issue of this title features Tigra's battle with Super Skrull in 'The Final Battle' by Jim Shooter, George Tuska and Sal Trapani. The cover is by Jack Kirby and Dan Adkins. (7/13)

DAREDEVIL ANNUAL (4, October). The Black Panther joins DD to investigate a blackmail plot that also interests The Sub Mariner and The Mind Master in 'Title Unknown (sorry)' by Chris Claremont, George Tuska and Frank Chiaramonte. (7/13)

THE INCREDIBLE HULK ANNUAL (5, October). The Hulk battles a ton of old adversaries: Diablo (Master Of Dimensions), Tahoo (The Thing From The Murky Swamp), Groot (Master Of Planets), Goom, The Blip, and Xemnu The Titan in 'And Six Shall Crush The Hulk' by Len Wein, Chris Claremont, Sal Buscema and Jack Abel. The cover is by Jack Kirby. (7/13)

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN (14, September). The long-awaited "Shadows In Zamboula" by Roy Thomas, Neal Adams and The Tribe is presented, as is a ten page Solomon Kane story, 'The Silver Beast From Torkenton" by Doug Moench and Mike Zeck. Also featured is a glossary of terms from the Kull paperback. The cover is by Earl Norem. (7/13)

MARVEL PREVIEW (7, September). N'Gari, seeking destruction of the human race for the Elder Gods, catches Satana in a web of evil in 'The Damnation Waltz' by Chris Claremont and Vicente Alcazar. The back up story is part two of The Sword In The Star, called 'Witchworld' by Bill Mantlo and Keith Giffen. The cover is by Bob Larkin. (7/13)

THE INCREDIBLE HULK (204, October). Bruce Banner is given a chance to go back into the past to prevent him from ever becoming The Hulk by Kronus, The Temporal Man in "Vicious Cycle" by Herb Trimpe (plot), Len Wein (script), Trimpe (pencils) and Joe Staton (inks). The cover is by Trimpe. (7/20)

THE AVENGERS (152, October). Wonder Man returns, apparently from the dead, but The Avengers' search for the truth leads them into a "Nightmare In New Orleans" as they meet the Black Talon. The plot is by Steve Englehart, script by Gerry Conway and the art is by John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. (7/20)

CONAN THE BARBARIAN (67, October). Belit and Red Sonja battle over a page from The Iron Bound Book Of Skelos as Conan tries to save Usef from a dungeon in 'Talons Of The Man-Tiger' by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and The Tribe. (7/20)

THE DEFENDERS (40, October). This is a set-up issue which leads itself into the ANNUAL and is called "Love, Anarchy, And, Oh Yes... The Assassin' and is by Steve Gerber,

Sal Buscema and Klaus Janson. (7/20)

MARVEL TALES (72, October). The reprint is from SPIDER-MAN #91 and is 'To Smash The Spider' by Stan Lee, Gil Kane and John Romita. (7/20)

THE CHAMPIONS (8, October). Continuing the plot threads from last issue, The Champs fight Titanium Man and go public finally in a story by Bill Mantlo, Bob Hall and Bruce Patterson. (7/20)

THE X-MEN (101, October). The Sentinel sequence is tied up and The X-Men are launched on a new adventure at The Banshee's Ireland castle -- plus, The Phoenix is introduced in 'Like A Phoenix From The Ashes by Chris Claremont, Dave Cockrum and Sam Grainger. The cover is by Cockrum. (7/20)

BLACK GOLIATH (5, October). BG, Celia and Keith travel to a hostile alien world where they encounter a gigantic guardian in "Survival" by Chris Claremont and Keith Pollard. This is the final issue. (7/20)

POWER MAN (36, October). Chemistro returns with help from The Cheshire Cat, Checkpoint Charlie and perhaps Big Brother in 'Chemistro Is Back, Deadlier Than Ever' by Marv Wolfman and Ron Wilson. (7/20)

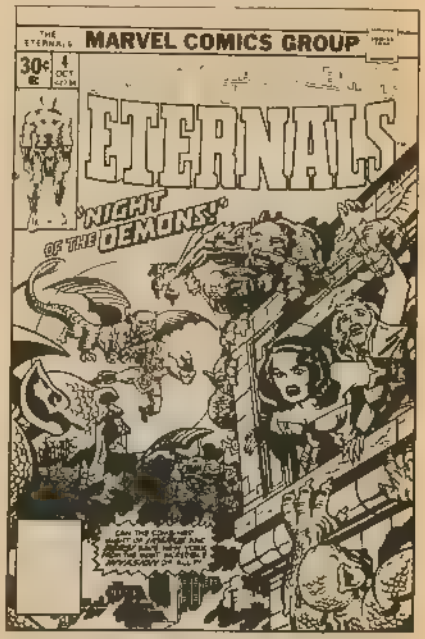
NOVA (2, October). Nova battles two new villains: Powerhouse and The Condor. "First Night Of The Condor is by Marv Wolfman, John Buscema and Joe Sinnott. (7/20)

CRAZY (20, September). (7/20)

THE DEADLY HANDS OF KUNG FU (27, September). The White Tiger tears apart the South Bronx in search for El Tigre in "Death Is A Game Called Handball' by Bill Mantlo, Ron Wilson and The Tribe. Plus, episode three of Sword Quest is presented, 'The Ninja Conspiracy,' by John D. Warner and Tony DeZuniga. The cover is by Earl Norem. (7/20)

PLANET OF THE APES (24, September). The lead story in this issue is part two of The Battle For TPOTA. The Doomsday Spawn' by Doug Moench and Alfred Alcala. The Future History Chronicles present the backup, "The Shadows Of Haunted Cathedrals" by Moench and Tom Sutton. The cover is by Bob Larkin. (7/20)

FANTASTIC FOUR (175, October). The High Evolutionary battles Galactus with the FF caught in the middle trying to save Earth and Counter Earth while The Impossible Man returns in this story by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and probably Joe Sinnott. George Perez returns to do the pencilling next issue. (7/27)



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MARVEL TEAM-UP (50, October). Spider-Man, Dr. Strange and Iron Man battle The Wraith as his big secret is revealed in "The Mystery Of The Wraith" by Bill Mantlo, Sal Buscema and Mike Esposito. (7/27)

IRON MAN (91, October). Krissy Longfellow is introduced as Tony's new secretary and the Controller series comes to an end in 'Breakout" by Gerry Conway, George Tuska and Jack Abel. (7/20)

MARVEL ADVENTURE (6, October). Probably the final issue, DAREDEVIL #27 is reprinted. "Mike Murdock Must Die" features Spider-Man and is by Stan Lee, Gene Colan and Frank Giacoia. (7/27)

MARVEL PRESENTS (7, October). The Guardians' Galactic Quest concludes with some character development between Nicky and Vance. A very strange method is used to destroy the creature in "Milky Way Snuff" (they pelt him to death with candy bars?) by

Steve Gerber, Al Milgrom and Terry Austin. (7/27)

WARLOCK (15, October). Methinks that this also is probably the final issue, though we have no information on it except that it is by Jim Starlin and Steve Leialoha. The cover is by Starlin. (7/27)

ADVENTURES ON THE PLANET OF THE APES (9, October). The penultimate reprint issue contains "Enslaved" by Doug Moench and Alfredo Alcala from POTA #8. (7/27)

SGT. FURY (136, October). The Howlers origin is revealed in 'The Origin Of The Howlers' by Roy Thomas, Dick Ayers and John Tartaglione from SGT. FURY #34. (7/27)

SPIDEY SUPER STORIES (19, October). (7/27)

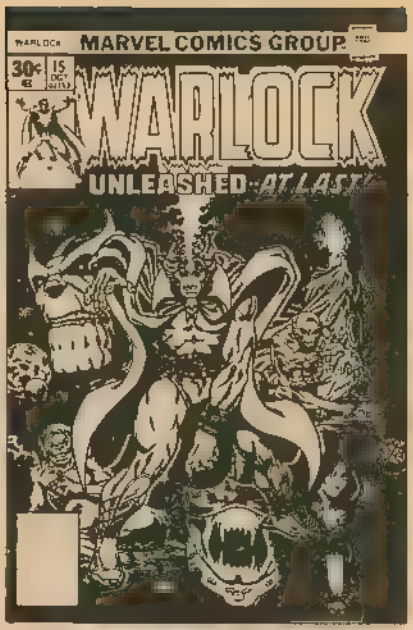
2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY (1, 1976). The ultimate science fiction film is adapted into comics form by Jack Kirby and Frank Giacoia. It is said to contain fantastic Kirby layouts and detail. The backup is an article by Kirby on science fiction and comics. (7/27)

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS (9, 1976). We have continually listed these AFTER their release, so this time we'll get a bit ahead. Dracula is featured in this issue in "Dracula" by Nestor Redondo. (8/3)

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS (10, 1976). In this one is 'Red Badge Of Courage' by E. R. Cruz. (8/3)

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS (11, 1976). Another E. R. Cruz issue, this one features Jules Verne's "Mysterious Island." (8/3)

MARVEL CLASSICS COMICS (12, 1976). The Three Musketeers get another treatment in "The Three Musketeers" by Alex Nino. (8/3)



Gold Key

Walt Disney DONALD DUCK (175, September) New stories. (7/1)

WOODY WOODPECKER (153, September). One page is a reprint, the rest is new. (7/1)

Walt Disney CHIP 'N' DALE (42, September). All reprints. (7/1)

Walt Disney MICKEY MOUSE (166, September). New stuff. (7/1)

PORKY PIG (70, September). One page is a reprint, the rest is all new. (7/1)

NEW TERRYTOONS (40, September). This entire issue's reprinted from the original plates. (7/1)

MAGNUS, ROBOT FIGHTER (45, October). This one's a reprint. (7/1)

Walt Disney UNCLE SCROOGE (132, September). Another Carl Barks reprint. (7/8)

GRIMM'S GHOST STORIES (33, September). All new stories. (7/8)

THE INSPECTOR (11, September). New stuff and one reprint page. (7/8)

Walt Disney SCAMP (31, September). New stories. (7/8)

YOSEMITE SAM AND BUGS BUNNY (39, September). New stories. (7/8)

Tales Of Sword And Sorcery DAGAR THE INVINCIBLE (17, October). New story by Don Glut and Jesse Santos, including one reprint page. (7/8)

Walt Disney MOBY DUCK (24, October). All

new stories. (7/8)

GOLD KEY SPOTLIGHT (3, October). This issue features a WACKY WITCH adventure. (7/8)

Walt Disney DAISY AND DONALD (19, September). New stories. (7/15)

TUROK, SON OF STONE (105, September). A new story by Paul S. Newman and Alberto Giolitti and his studio. (7/15)

Walt Disney HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE, JUNIOR WOODCHUCKS (40, September). New stories. (7/15)

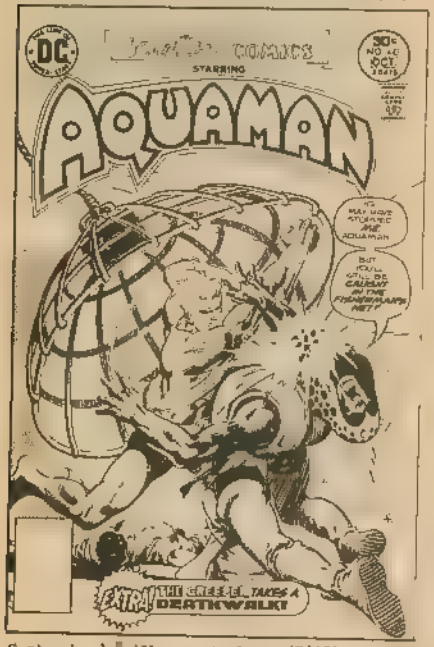
LITTLE LULU (235, September). New stories. (7/15)

THE PINK PANTHER (37, September). New stuff except for a reprint page. (7/15)

STAR TREK (40, September). New stories. (7/15)

BEEP BEEP, THE ROAD RUNNER (59, September). New except for a reprint page. (7/15)

BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY (70,



September). All new stories. (7/15)

BUGS BUNNY (176, September). New except for a reprint page. (7/22)

TWEETY AND SYLVESTER (61, September). New stories. (7/22)

WALT DISNEY S COMICS AND STORIES (432, September). 14 pages of new, 11 pages of reprint stuff. (7/22)

Walt Disney BEAGLE BOYS (31, September). New stories. (7/22)

THE TWILIGHT ZONE (73, September). This issue is printed from old plates. (7/22)

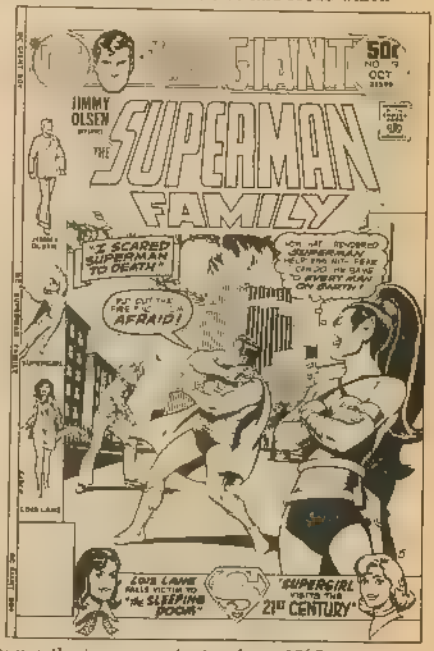
ANDY PANDA (15, September). All new except for a page reprint. (7/22)

Space Family Robinson LOST IN SPACE On Space Station One (49, October). New except for a one page reprint. (7/22)

KK GIVEAWAY (419). BABY SNOOTS
KK GIVEAWAY (420). WOODY WOODPECKER

National Coming Comics

LIMITED COLLECTORS' EDITION (C-48, October-November). THE SUPERMAN-FLASH RACE is the theme of this issue which



features the two race stories from 1968: 'Superman's Race With The Flash' by Jim Shooter, Curt Swan and George Klein; and 'Race To The End Of The Universe" by Nelson Bridwell, Ross Andru and Mike Esposito. The cover is by Carmine Infantino and Jose Garcia-Lopez. (7/1)

LIMITED COLLECTORS' EDITION (C-49, October-November). SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES star in two oversized stories: 'Mordru The Merciless' by Jim Shooter, Curt Swan and George Klein and "The Devil's Jury by Shooter, Swan and Jack Abel. The cover is by Mike Grell. (7/1)

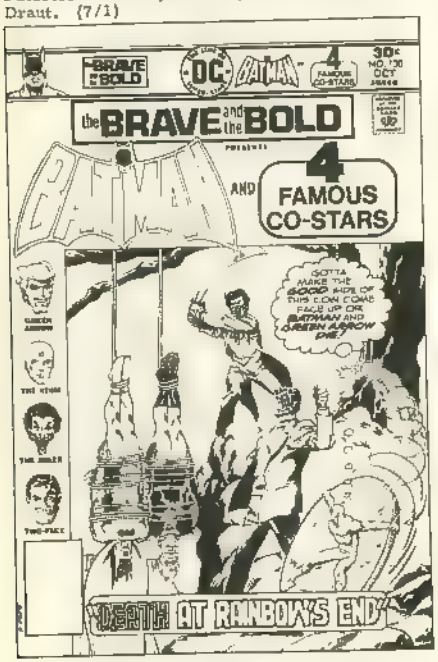
OUR ARMY AT WAR (297, October). Sgt. Rock and Easy play the 'Percentages" in the latest adventure by Bob Kanigher and Frank Redondo. Plus an as yet undetermined Gallery OF WAR story. The cover is by Joe Kubert. (7/1)

KAMANDI, THE LAST BOY ON EARTH (46, October). Leopards and tigers join the fray

as Kamandi and company enter 'The Wrath And The Fury" by new scripter Denny O'Neil, Keith Giffen and Jack Abel. The final Tales Of The Great Disaster episode is appropriately titled 'Finale' by David Kraft, Mike Nassar and Joe Rubinstein. The cover is by Ernie Chua. (7/1)

BINKY (82, Summer). DC re-enters the teen-age humor field with a one-shot comic composed of material completed before the book's cancellation back in '71. The book is edited by Joe Orlando. (7/1)

HOUSE OF SECRETS (142, October). Stories in this issue include: "Food For Thought" by George Kashdan and Leopoldo Duranona, Who Goes There?' by Jack Oleck and Ernesto Patricio and Playmate by Oleck and Bill Draut. (7/1)



JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA (135, October). The fourteenth annual get together of the JLA and the JSA guest stars the Fawcett heroes from yet another parallel world -- Earth-S. It seems King Kull, arch-enemy of The Marvel Family, has frozen the Shazam gods to prevent Billy and Mary Batson and Freddy Freeman from calling forth the magic lightning bolts -- and they cannot prevent Kull from threatening Earth s I, II and S. Mercury, the only one to escape King Kull's trap, rounds up heroes from three worlds: Superman, Flash, Green Lantern, Green Arrow, Hawkman and Hawkgirl from Earth I; Batman, Robin, Flash, Green Lantern, Wonder Woman and Johnny Thunder from Earth II; and from Earth-S he corrals Ibis The Invincible, Mr. Scarlet, Pinky, Spy Smasher, Bulletman and Bulletgirl. 'Crisis In Eternity" is by Nelson Bridwell, Marty Pasko, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. The cover is by Ernie Chua. (7/6)

BATMAN (280, October). You'd think Batman would be happy about it, but he becomes quite concerned when all crime in Gotham City halts at 1 AM excepting "The Only Crime In Town,' delineated by David V. Reed and Ernie Chua. The cover is by Chua. (7/6)

STARFIRE (2, October-November). Starfire and friends off a bunch of Mygorgs only to discover that they were only a small part of a much larger bunch of Mygorgs and that they re coming to get them! The story is by David Michelinie, Mike Vosburg and Vince Colletta. (7/6)

STAR SPANGLED WAR STORIES (202, October-November). The Unknown Soldier gets himself into another secret mission in a book lengther, 'The Cure, by David Michelinie and Gerry Talaoc. The cover is by Ernie Chua. (7/1)

METAL MEN (48, October-November). The master of black light, Eclipso, returns to battle the Metal Men in 'Who Is Bruce Gordon And Why Is He Doing These Terrible Things To Himself?" by Gerry Conway, Marty Pasko and Walt Simonson. The cover is by Simonson. (7/8)

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YOUNG LOVE (121, October-November). Stories included in the resurrected giant-size re-entry into the romance field include "Bikers' Girl," "The Girl Who Wanted To Say Yes, and "Nobody Wants Me." The cover is by Vince Colletta. (7/8)

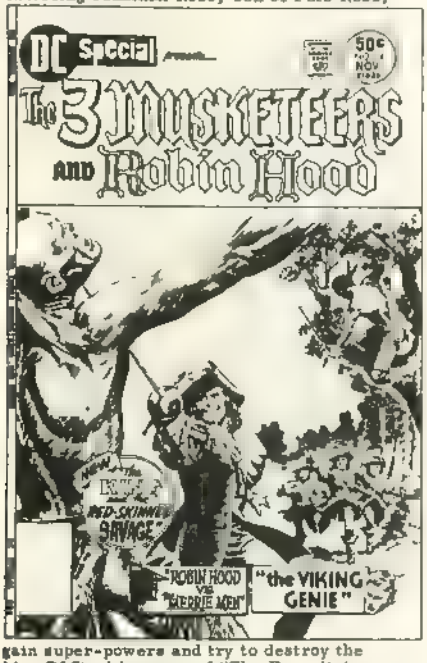
THE SUPERMAN FAMILY (179, October-November). Jimmy Olsen must try to find out whether Lucy Lane is causing the unreasonable fear being struck into the hearts of Metropolis' men and Superman in 'I Scared Superman To Death" by Cary Bates and Kurt Schaffenberger. Reprints include Lois Lane

in 'The Sleeping Doom' by Kurt Schaffenberger and Supergirl "Visits The 21st Century." The cover is by Schaffenberger. (7/8)

SUPER DC GIANT (S-27, Fall). The long-delayed return of this title is accomplished with a one-shot collection of STRANGE Flying Saucer ADVENTURES: "Secret Of The Flying Buzz-Saw," "Riddle Of Spaceman X," "The Flying Saucer Bommerang," 'Earth Hero Number One" and 'The Man Who Grew Wings." (7/8)

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD (130, October). The Joker and Two-Face seem to have the upper hand over Batman, The Atom and The Green Arrow in the second part of this adventure titled "Death At Rainbow's End" by Bob Haney and Jim Aparo. The cover is by Aparo. (7/13)

SUPERMAN (304, October). Four people, including Jonathan Ross, son of Pete Ross,



gain super-powers and try to destroy the Man Of Steel because of "The Parasite's Prism Of Peril," a story by Gerry Conway, Curt Swan and Bob Oksner. The cover is by Swan and Oksner. (7/13)

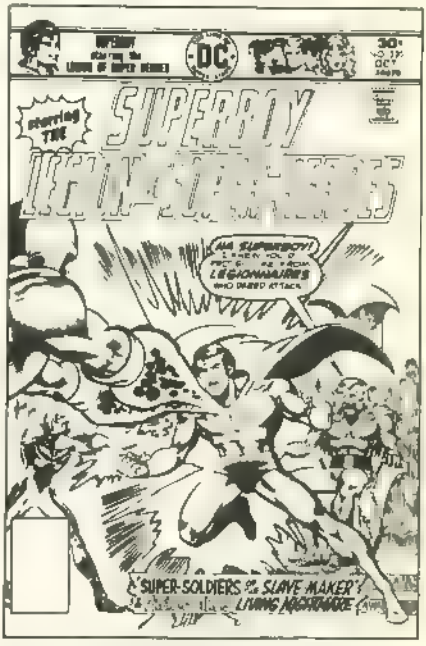
PLASTIC MAN (15, October-November). A robot assassin sets out to steal Plastic Man's powers in "The Snuffer" by Steve Skeates, Ramona Fradon and Robert Smith. The cover is by Jose Garcia-Lopez. (7/13)

SWAMP THING (25, October-November). Swamp Thing, somehow changed back from being Alec Holland, ends up in Portland and Carter Hall investigates. Hawkman battles Swamp Thing in 'The Sky Above' by David Kraft, Ernie Chua and Fred Carillo. The cover is by Ernie Chua. (7/13)

HERCULES UNBOUND (7, October-November). This episode includes Hercules battle with the Loch Ness Monster, a survivor of World War III, in a story by David Michelinie, Walt Simonson and Wally Wood. (7/15)

KOBRA (5, October-November). Those unlikely twins, Kobra and Jason Burr, are featured in a new story by Marty Pasko, Mike Nasser and Joe Rubinstein. (7/15)

ISIS (1, October-November). Andrea Thomas joins the DC line-up in her first full-



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length adventure called "Scarab -- The Man Who Would Destroy!" by editor Denny O'Neil, Ric Estrada and Wally Wood. (7/15)

DC SPECIAL (24, October-November). The Three Musketeers encounter an American Indian in 17th century France, and help him in "The King and The Red-Skinned Savage' by Wesley Marsh and Lee Elias. The reprints include Robin Hood in "Robin Hood Vs. The Merrie Men and The Viking Prince in 'The Viking Genie." The cover is by Luis Dominguez. (7/15)

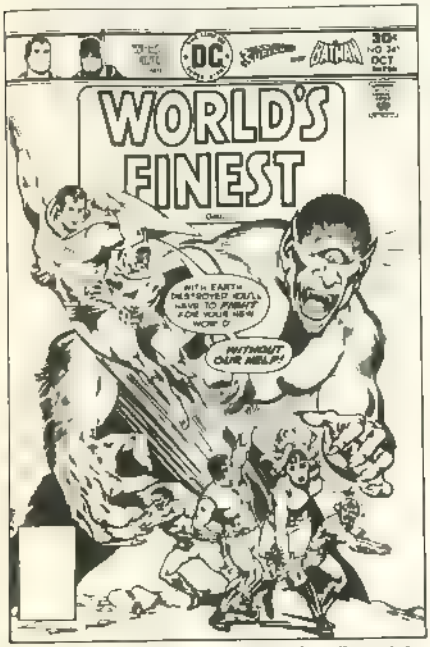
SUPERBOY (220, October). In order to prevent Earth's destruction, Superboy and the Legion must become 'Super-Soldiers Of The Slave-Maker" in a story by Jim Shooter and Mike Grell. Plus, Brainiac 5 and Chameleon Boy try to change history in 'Dream Girl's Living Nightmare' by Cary Bates and Grell. The cover is by Grell. (7/20)

RICHARD DRAGON, KUNG FU FIGHTER (12, October-November). Dragon, Shiva and Ben continue their adventure in Red China in 'A Dragon Defiant' by David Kraft, Ric Estrada and Jack Abel. The cover is by Dick Giordano. (7/20)

WORLD'S FINEST COMICS (241, October). Bruce Wayne and Clark Kent are on the

last spaceship to leave Earth as their planet is being destroyed in "Make Way For A Better World," a story by Bob Haney, Pablo Marcos and John Calnan. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Calnan. (7/20)

HOUSE OF MYSTERY (246, October). This issue features: "Death-Vault Of The Eskimo Kings' by Mike Fleisher, Russell Carley and Mike Vosburg and Sal Trapani; 'Tomb It May Concern" by Jack Oleck and Jess Jodloman, plus Cain s Game Room by Don Edwing and Dave Manak. (7/22)



RAGMAN (2, October-November). The origin of the newest DC super-hero is revealed in ' The Tattered Tatterdemalion" by Bob Kanigher, Joe Kubert and the Redondo Studio. The cover is by Joe Kubert. (7/22)

GREEN LANTERN (91, October-November). GL must pass up capturing the renegade Sinestro in order to save a fellow Green Lantern but Sinestro takes the opportunity to make Green Arrow live to regret his collegue's decision in ' Revenge Of The Renegade by Denny O'Neil and Mike Grell. The cover is by Ernie Chua and Frank Giacoia. (7/22)

DC SUPER STARS (8, October). SPACE is the theme again as Adam Strange faces ' The Siren Of The Space Ark by Gardner Fox, Carmine Infantino and Sid Greene. Plus, the Star Rovers star in Who Saved The Earth? by Fox and Greene, and Space Ranger's initial SHOWCASE appearance is reprinted, "The Great Plutonium Plot," by Fox and Bob Brown. The cover is by Ernie Chua. (7/22)

G.I. COMBAT (195, October). Murray Boltinoff brings back the famous War That Time Forgot as the Haunted Tank crew meet dinosaurs in "The War That Time Forgot" by Bob Kanigher and Sam Glanzman. A new O.S.S. story is also featured, 'Champagne For A Butcher" by Bart Regan and Ric Estrada. The cover is by Joe Kubert. (7/27)

THE WITCHING HOUR (66, October-November). Stories in this issue are "A Scream In The Attic by Carl Wessler and Fred Carillo, The Night Visitor" by George Kashdan and Jose Delbo, and 'Half A Killer Is Better Than None!" (7/27)

WONDER WOMAN (226, October-November). Ares enlists Hephaestus, God Of Fire to battle WW in "A Life In Flames" by Marty Pasko, Jose Delbo and Vince Colletta. (7/27)

ACTION COMICS (464, October). Batman and The Flash have reverted to their childhoods and the villain who did it to them is threatening, "Superman, I'm Going To Re-run Your Life ' in a story by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Tex Blaisdell. The backup is "See Metropolis With Clark Kent" by Nelson Bridwell, and Kurt Schaffenberger. The cover is by Bob Oksner. (7/29)

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DETECTIVE COMICS (464, October). A new adversary of drug trafficking, The Black Spider crosses the path of Batman, and naturally they must fight to the death in a Gerry Conway story, "The Doomsday Express, drawn by Ernie Chua and Frank McLaughlin. The backup features another episode of The Calculator serial, this time fighting Black Canary as he increases the temperature in Star City to 200 degrees in ' A Hot Time In Star City Tonight ' by Bob Rozakis, Mike Grell and Terry Austin. The cover is by Ernie Chua. (7/29)

TARZAN (254, October). Tarzan still believes Jane has been murdered and is out to exact 'Vengeance And Mercy' by Gerry Conway, David Kraft, Jose Garcia-Lopez and Frank Springer. (7/29)

SUPER-TEAM FAMILY (7, October-November). The last all-reprint issue features the Teen Titans in "To Order Is To Destroy by Steve Skeates, George Tuska and Nick Cardy. Plus, The Doom Patrol returns in a reprint of The Brotherhood Of Evil" by Arnold Drake and Bruno Premiani. (7/29)

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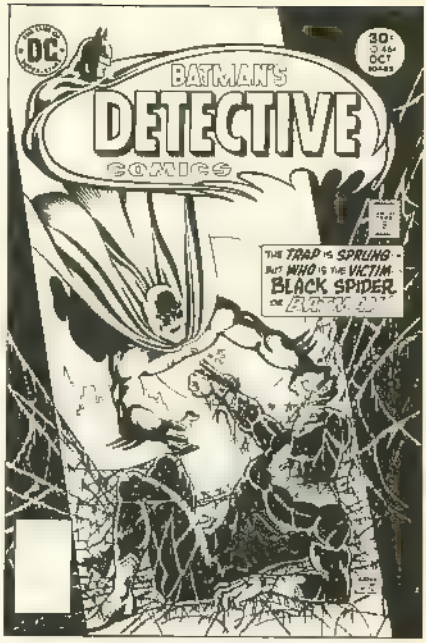

THE WARLORD (3, October-November). Mike Grell's one-man-show returns as Travis Morgan continues his inner-earth quest for Tara although he is hampered by being captured by the Lizard-Men in War Gods Of Skartaris by Grell, of course. The cover is by -- Grell! (7/29)

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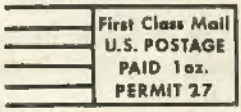

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